

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 1-4 and 12, and AMEND claim 5 in accordance with the following:

Claims 1-4 (Cancelled)

5. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A computer-readable storage medium according to claim 2 encoded with a computer program that when executed causes a computer to execute a method that detects network failures, based on information obtained from monitor target equipment which is disposed within a communication network and which has a plurality of communication interfaces, wherein said method further comprises comprising:

extracting traffic flow information indicating both an amount of receiving traffic and an amount of transmitting traffic in each interface of the monitor target equipment, from a storage device of the computer;

setting a virtual point indicating the end or the starting point of the traffic inside the monitor target equipment, ~~and wherein said~~

computing computes an amount of abnormal traffic using a virtual point set in the monitor target equipment, among a plurality of segments of traffic inside the monitor target equipment, and using the traffic flow information to compute a first traffic flow using each interface and another interface as a starting point and an end point, respectively, of the traffic inside the monitor target equipment, a second traffic flow using each interface and the virtual point as the starting point and the end, respectively, a third traffic flow using the virtual point and each interface as the starting point and the end, respectively, and a fourth traffic flow using each interface as both the starting point and the end and computes a first total of the second, third and fourth traffic flows as the amount of abnormal traffic; and

determining whether there is a network failure based on the amount of the abnormal traffic.

6. (previously presented) The computer-readable storage medium according to claim 5, wherein said computing includes computing a ratio of the amount of abnormal traffic to a second total of the first, second, third and fourth traffic flows, and to wherein said determining determines that the network failure exists if the ratio of the amount of abnormal traffic exceeds a predetermined threshold value.

Claims 7-12 (Cancelled)